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November 30, 1978

Dear Senator Roth:

Thank you for your letter of October 19 enclosing a communication of [redacted] with regard to Mr. Raoul Wallenberg.

Mr. Wallenberg was a Swedish diplomat posted in Budapest during the Second World War. In that capacity he was instrumental in saving the lives of thousands of Jews by issuing them Swedish passports which permitted them to escape from Hungary. He was arrested by Soviet authorities when Soviet forces took Budapest in 1945.

In 1955 the Soviet Government informed the Swedish Government that Mr. Wallenberg had died in a Moscow prison in 1947. The Soviet Government expressed regret over the matter and blamed it on the excesses of the period when Beria was head of the Soviet secret police.

Since 1955 there have been several reports that Mr. Wallenberg was still alive in a Soviet prison. There is no [redacted] evidence. He has cooperated fully with the Swedish Government on several occasions in endeavoring to shed more light on this matter, and will continue to do so in the future.

Sincerely,

Amelia J. Bennett, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary  
for Congressional Relations

Enclosure:  
Correspondence returned.

Clearances: EUR/NE: [redacted] Woods Act  
EUR:RDVine [redacted]  
H:TWeston [redacted]

The Honorable,  
William V. Roth, Jr.,  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

Drafted: EUR/NE: [redacted] Thompson: [redacted]  
11/17/78 ext. 21194

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